

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masashi MORI et al.  
Int'l Application No.: PCT/JP2004/014487  
Application No.: **NEW APPLICATION**  
Filed: March 31, 2006  
For: **DNA FRAGMENT, METHOD FOR PRODUCING  
TRANSFORMANT FOR PROTEIN PRODUCTION  
AND UTILIZATION THEREOF (as amended)**

**LETTER**

Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
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Alexandria, VA 22314  
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**March 31, 2006**

Sir:

Amended sheets are attached hereto (which correspond to Article 34 amendments or to claims attached to the International Preliminary Examination Report), as required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(3). The Article 34 amended sheets are incorporated in the included substitute specification and Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A transformed cell usable for protein production and cultured in a liquid medium,

wherein the transformed cell is constructed from a living cell that has incorporated an expression vector which includes:

a gene of a plant virus having (i) a coding gene of a protein to be expressed, and (ii) a suppressor against a virus resistant reaction; and

an inducible promoter ligated to the plant virus gene.

2. A transformed cell as set forth in claim 1, wherein the plant virus is a tobamovirus.

3. A transformed cell as set forth in claim 2, wherein the tobamovirus is one of tobacco mosaic virus and tomato mosaic virus.

4. A transformed cell as set forth in any one of claims 1 through 3, wherein the inducible promoter is induced by a chemical substance.

5. A transformed cell as set forth in claim 4, wherein the chemical substance comprises a hormone.

6. A transformed cell as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hormone comprises a steroid hormone.

7. A transformed cell as set forth in any one of claims 1 through 6, wherein the living cell is a plant cell.

8. A transformed cell as set forth in claim 7, wherein the plant cell is a tobacco cell.